

Glenn Patent Group  
3475 Edison Way, Suite L  
Menlo Park, CA 94025

Tel 650 474 8400  
Fax 650 474 8401  
glennt-law.com

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October 9, 2003

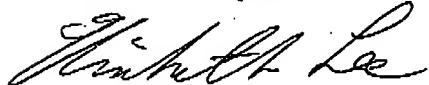
Examiner James S. McClellan  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Art Unit: 3627  
Fax: 703-746-3516

Re: Application Entitled: System and Method for Funneling User Responses in an Internet Voice Portal System to Determine a Desired Item or Service  
Application No. 09/531,743  
Our File: QUAC0006

Dear James:

Please revive this case in view of the evidence of the Preliminary Amendment filed as reponse to the office action of February 28, 2003.

Very truly yours,



Elisabeth Lee  
Docketing Supervisor

Enclosure

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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**In re Application of:** Carriere, et al.**Docket No.:** QUAC0006**Serial No. :** 09/531,743**Art Unit:** 3627**Filed:** March 21, 2000**Examiner:** J. McClellan**Title:** SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR FUNNELING USER RESPONSES IN AN  
INTERNET VOICE PORTAL SYSTEM TO DETERMINE A DESIRED ITEM OR  
SERVICE

April 25, 2003

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
BOX NON-FEE  
Washington, DC 20231**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

This Preliminary Amendment is responsive to the final rejection dated February 28, 2003 in the above-identified patent application.

Please amend the application as indicated below.

**In the Claims:**

1. A method of funneling user responses in a voice portal system to determine a desired item or service, the method comprising:

(a) establishing an attribute value associated with a particular attribute of desired item or service; and

(b) determining if the attribute value satisfies an end state, wherein if the end state is not satisfied, performing steps (a) and (b) by said voice portal with a new attribute;